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CIA/OCI/SNSUEE 750915 SOVIET UNION E. EUROPE

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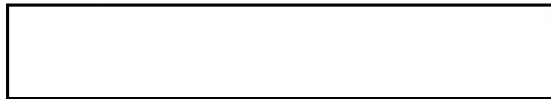
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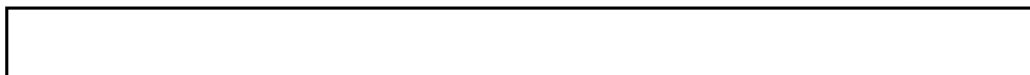
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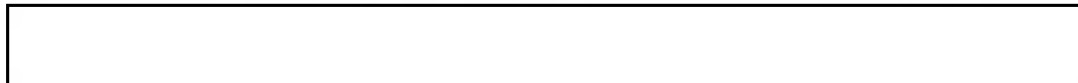
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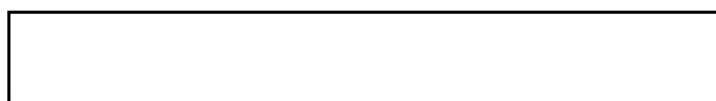
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President Meets President:
The Bulgarian View

Bulgarian party and state leader Todor Zhivkov is pleased with his few chance encounters with President Ford at Helsinki, and evidently feels that he has established some sort of personal relationship with the President.

During a discussion with a group of visiting American businessmen last week, Zhivkov mentioned that he "assessed favorably" the "several brief talks" he had with President Ford.

The longest exchange between the two touched upon a sensitive issue for the Bulgarians--a formal Zhivkov visit to the US. Zhivkov reportedly began by making some favorable remarks about the US, although, he added with typical Balkan subtlety, that he had seen very little of the country. When, according to Bulgarian officials, President Ford replied that Zhivkov should return and see more, Zhivkov said he would have to be invited. According to party secretary Konstantin Tellalov, who sat in on the conversation, the President responded, "Well, consider yourself invited."

Neither Zhivkov nor other members of the Bulgarian leadership believe that the President's remarks constitute a formal invitation, but even this slight possibility has struck a responsive chord. The Bulgarians [redacted] feel they are at the bottom of US priorities in Eastern Europe. They have suggested repeatedly that they would be pleased to receive a high-level US visitor such as Secretary Kissinger.

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The ECPC: Don't Hold Your Breath

Moscow is evidently prepared for further delays in the convocation of its long-sought European Communist Party Conference. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] the conference may not take place until after the Soviet party congress next February.

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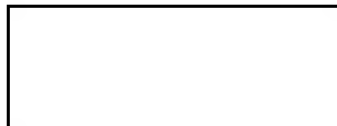
[REDACTED] may merely be an effort to put the Yugoslavs and others on notice not to expect any concessions because of Moscow's desire to have a European conference by the end of this year. But it would seem to be in keeping with Moscow's stepped-up criticism of the Chinese, which might have been deferred if the Soviets thought that preparations for a European gathering had reached a sensitive stage.

A delay until next spring would be a setback for the Soviets. The leadership wanted to be able at the congress to point to a successful gathering of the European parties as evidence of Moscow's strong position in the international movement and of the widely acknowledged wisdom of Moscow's detente line in Europe.

In several preparatory sessions throughout the summer, the Soviets have shown minimal flexibility in dealing with the more independent-minded parties. The latter are still resisting an agenda or final document that is critical of China or that tries to set a common policy line for the different European parties. [REDACTED]

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Yugoslavs Capture Key Pro-Soviet Emigre

The Yugoslavs, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] seized Vlado Dapcevic, an important organizer of pro-Soviet emigres who advocate the return of Yugoslavia to the Soviet camp. Dapcevic is a leader of the Cominformist plotters who were uncovered last year and reportedly has had ties to the KGB.

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Dapcevic spent ten years, from 1948 through 1958, in jail in Yugoslavia for supporting Stalin against Tite. He escaped and began a career of anti-Titoist subversion from bases in Albania, the USSR, and Belgium. He was named secretary of the illegal Communist party that was organized in Montenegro in April 1974.

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The arrest may be followed by a major trial designed to unnerve those Cominformists still at large in Yugoslavia and elsewhere in Europe. Whether or not Belgrade publicly links Dapcevic to the Soviets, his arrest and trial will raise again the specter of KGB subversion in Yugoslavia.

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New Soviet Minister of Communications

N. V. Talyzin has been appointed the new Soviet minister of communications, succeeding N. D. Psurtsev who retired at age 75 in poor health. Psurtsev had held the position since 1948.

Talyzin, only 46, has moved up rapidly since graduating from the Moscow Electrical Engineering Institute of Communications in 1955. He was named deputy minister of communications in 1965 and first deputy minister in 1971. His specialty is communications and television space technology and he was awarded a State Prize for Science and Engineering in 1968 for his work as project director in the development of the Orbita and Molniya communications satellite network.

Talyzin is considered to be well informed, and the technical quality of Soviet communications is likely to improve under his direction. Communications satellite technology will continue to receive heavy emphasis.

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